

A

SECOND LETTER

TO THE

LORD BISHOP of *Exeter*,

IN ANSWER TO

HIS LORDSHIP'S late LETTER.

By JOHN WESLEY, M. A.

THE SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N :

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SECOND LETTER, &c.

MY LORD,

IN my late Letter to your Lordship, I used no Ceremony. I suppose it was not expected from one who was so deeply injured : And I trust, I used no Rudeness ; if I did, I am ready to ask your Lordship's Pardon.

That Letter, * “ related to a Matter of Fact published on your Lordship's Authority, which I endeavoured to falsify,” and your Lordship, now again endeavours to support.

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* The Bishop of Exeter's Letter, Page 2, 3.

The Facts alledged are, 1st, That I told Mrs *Morgan* at *Mitchel*, ‘ You are in Hell; you are damn’d already.’ 2^{dly}, ‘ That I asked her to live upon free Cost.’ 3^{dly}, ‘ That she determined to admit no more *Methodists* into her House.’

At first I thought so silly and improbable a Story neither deserved nor required a Confutation: But when my Friends thought otherwise, I called on Mrs *Morgan*, who denied she ever said any such Thing. I wrote down her Words; Part of which I transcribed in my Letter to your Lordship, as follows:

‘ On Saturday, August 25, 1750.
 ‘ Mr *Trembath* of St *Ginnys*, Mr
 ‘ *Haime* of *Shaftsbury*, and I, called
 ‘ at Mr. *Morgan*’s at *Mitchel*. The
 ‘ Servant telling me her Master was
 ‘ not at Home, I desired to speak
 ‘ with her Mistrefs, the honest sensible Woman. I immediately ask’d,
 ‘ Did I ever tell you or your Husband,
 ‘ that

' that you would be damn'd if you
 ' took any Money of me ? (so the Story
 ' ran in the first Part of the Compa-
 ' rison : It has now undergone a ve-
 ' ry considerable Alteration) Or did
 ' you or he ever affirm, (another Cir-
 ' cumstance related at *Truro*) That I
 ' was rude with your Maid ? She
 ' replied vehemently, Sir, I never
 ' said you was, or that you said any
 ' such Thing ; and I don't suppose
 ' my Husband did : But we have
 ' been belied as well as our Neighbours.
 ' She added, When the Bishop came
 ' down last, he sent us Word he would
 ' dine at our House ; but he did not,
 ' being invited to a neighbouring Gen-
 ' tleman's. He sent for me thither,
 ' and said, Good Woman, do you
 ' know these People that go up and
 ' down ? Do you know Mr. *Wesley* ?
 ' Did not he tell you, you would be
 ' damn'd if you took any Money of
 ' him ? And did not he offer Rudeness
 ' to your Maid ? I told him, No, my
 ' Lord, he never said any such Thing

‘ to me, nor to my Husband that I
 ‘ know of. He never offered any
 ‘ Rudeness to any Maid of mine. I
 ‘ never saw, or knew any Harm by
 ‘ him. But a Man told me once,
 ‘ (who, I was told, was a Methodist
 ‘ Preacher) That I should be damn’d,
 ‘ if I did not know my Sins were
 ‘ forgiven.’

Your Lordship replies, * ‘ I nei-
 ‘ ther sent Word that I would dine
 ‘ at their House, nor did I send for
 ‘ Mrs *Morgan* ; every Word that pas-
 ‘ sed between us, was at her own House
 ‘ at *Mitchel*.’ I believe it ; and con-
 sequently, that the Want of Exactness
 in this Point, rests on Mrs *Morgan*,
 not on your Lordship.

Your Lordship adds, ‘ The fol-
 ‘ lowing Attestations will sufficiently
 ‘ clear me from any Imputation, or
 ‘ even Suspicion, of having publish’d
 ‘ a Falshood : ’ I apprehend other-
 wife:

wife. To wave what is past, if the Facts now published by your Lordship, or any Part of them, be not true; then certainly, your Lordship will lie under more than a 'Suspicion of having published a Falseness.'

The Attestations your Lordship produces are, 1st, Those of your Lordship's Chancellor and Archdeacon. 2^{dly}, Those of Mr *Bennet*.

The former attests, That in *June*, or *July*, 1748. Mrs *Morgan* did say those Things to your Lordship. * I believe she did, and therefore acquit your Lordship of being the *Inventor* of those Falsenesses.

Mr *Bennet* avers, That in *January* last, Mrs *Morgan* repeated to him what she had before said to your Lordship. † Probably she might; having said those Things once, I do not wonder if she said them again.

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* Page 8.

† Page 11.

Nevertheless, before Mr *Trembath* and Mr *Haime*, she denied every Word of it.

To get over this Difficulty, your Lordship publishes a second Letter from Mr *Bennet*, wherein he says, ‘ On *March 4th* last Mrs *Morgan* said, ‘ I was told by my Servant, that I ‘ was wanted above Stairs ; where ‘ when I came, the Chamber Door ‘ being open, I found them (Mr *Wesley* ‘ and others) round the Table on ‘ their Knees.’ He adds, that Mrs ‘ *Morgan* owned one Circumstance in ‘ it was true ; but as to the other Parts ‘ of Mr *Wesley*’s Letter to the Bishop, ‘ she declares ’tis all false.’

I believe Mrs *Morgan* did say this to Mr *Bennet*, and that therefore neither is he *the Maker of a Lie*. But he is the Relater of a whole Train of Falshoods, and those told merely for telling Sake. I was never yet in any *Chamber* at Mrs *Morgan*’s. I was never

never *above Stairs* there in my Life. On *August 25, 1750*, I was *below Stairs* all the time I was in the House. When Mrs *Morgan* came in, I was *standing* in the large Parlour; nor did any of us *kneel* while we were under the Roof. This both Mr *Trembath* and Mr *Haime* can attest upon Oath, whatsoever Mrs *Morgan* may *declare* to the contrary.

But she declared farther, (so Mr *Bennet* writes) ‘ That Mr *John Wesley*, ‘ some time ago, said to a Maid of ‘ hers, such things as were not fit to ‘ be spoken: ’ * And Mr *Morgan* declared, That he ‘ did or said such ‘ indecent Things to the above-named ‘ Maid (the same Fact, I presume, ‘ only a little embellish’d) in his ‘ Chamber, in the Night, that she ‘ immediately ran down Stairs, and ‘ protested she would not go near him ‘ or any of the *Methodists* more.” †

To save Trouble to your Lordship as well as to myself, I will put this Cause
upon

* Page 11.

† Page 12.

upon a very short Issue. If your Lordship will only prove, That ever I lay one Night in Mr *Morgan's* House, nay, that ever I was in the Town of *Mitchel* after Sun-set, I will confess the whole Charge.

What your Lordship mentions by
 ' the Way ' I will now consider.
 ' Some of *your* western Correspondents imposed upon the *Leaders of*
 ' *Methodism*, by transmitting to *London*
 ' a notoriously false Account of my
 ' Charge to the Clergy. Afterwards
 ' the *Methodists* confessed themselves
 ' to have been deceived; yet some
 ' time after the *Methodists* at *Corke* in
 ' *Ireland*, your own Brother at the
 ' Head of them, reprinted the same
 ' lying Pamphlet, as my Perform-
 ' ance.' *

My Lord, I know not who are your Lordship's *Irish Correspondents*: But here are almost as many Mistakes

as

* Page 4, 5.

as Lines. For, 1. They were none of *my Correspondents* who sent that Account to *London*. 2. It was sent not to the *Leaders of Methodism*, but to one who was no *Methodist* at all. 3. That it was a *false Account* I do not know. But your Lordship may easily put it out of Dispute. And many have wondered, that your Lordship did not do so long ago, by printing the Charge in Question. 4. I did never confess, it was a *false Account*; nor any Person by my Consent, or with my Knowledge. 5. That Account was never reprinted at *Corke* at all. 6. When it was reprinted at *Dublin*, your Lordship had not disowned it. 7. My Brother was not in *Dublin* when it was done; nor did either he or I know of it till long after.

Therefore, when my Brother was ask'd, 'How he could reprint such an Account after your Lordship had publickly disowned it,' I do not at all wonder, that 'he did not offer a single Word in Answer.'

Whe-

Whether this, as well as my former Letter be “mere Rant and Declamation,” or plain and sober Reason, I must refer to the World and your Lordship’s own Conscience.

I am,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship’s

Most obedient Servant,

Newcastle upon Tyne,
May 8, 1752.

JOHN WESLEY.

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